



Express Mail Mailing Label No. EV832481685US

PATENT
Attorney Docket No. MRK-001

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT(S): Way CONF. NO.: 2626
SERIAL NO.: 09/708,506 GROUP NO.: 1647
FILING DATE: November 9, 2000 EXAMINER: DeBerry, Regina M.
TITLE: Erythropoietin Forms with Improved Properties

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
EXAMINING GROUP NO. 1647**

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Sir:

This paper is responsive to the Office action for the above-identified patent application, mailed from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on January 20, 2006. Applicant believes that no petition or fee is required for entry and consideration of this paper. If any petition or fee is required, please consider this a conditional petition for any required extension of time, and a conditional authorization to charge any required fee to Deposit Account No. 50-1721.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 5 of this paper.